

Larger mammals of Bankhead Moss

S.T. Buckland

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I have included just those species that I have photographed at Bankhead Moss. Apart from one of the red squirrel photos, all photos were taken since the start of 2024.

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Badger

The mixed woodland south of the Moss is called ‘badger wood’, and there is still an active sett on the reserve. This badger was taking aired bedding back into the sett just after sunset in late April.





Brown hare

Hares use the reserve as a refuge, moving out into the surrounding fields to feed — and cavort!







Grey squirrel

The grey squirrels above and below were in the mixed woodland in autumn 2024. The one on the right was by the boardwalk in summer 2025. Squirrel pox, carried by greys, recently arrived in Fife, so the presence of grey squirrels is a potential threat to the red squirrel population at Bankhead Moss, as the disease is fatal for them.









Hedgehog

This hedgehog was by the south car park in mid-May 2025 when I returned to my car after a night mothing session.



Red fox

This fox emerged from the marsh at dawn in early April. It was probably making its way back to its den. A roe deer alerted me to its presence, by barking at it.







Red squirrel

A few red squirrels live in the mixed woodland just south of the moss. They occasionally wander to other parts of the reserve, like the ones here that were using the boardwalk.









Roe deer

Always present. The number on the reserve is often in double figures.





